

Fresno Police Department

Chief's Advisory Board Minutes

May 29, 2008

Present: Kamal Abu-Shamsieh, Ed Bailey (for Kelly Nelum), Jimmy Bosquez, Roz Clark, Tom Gentile, Harry Gill, Jesse McDonald, Debra Odom, Jim Poptanich, Rebeca Rangel, Luke Raughley, Enrique Reade, Marvin Reyes, Vicki Bethel (for Michael Roth), David Tittle, Ricardo Garcia (for Gordon Donoho).

Absent: Morgan Doizaki, Frank Franco, Paula Farris, Jan Sangster, Deep Sethi, Miu Mindy Vuong, H. Spees

Guests: Deputy Chief Pat Farmer (for Chief Dyer), Deputy Chief Keith Foster, Captain Andy Hall, Lieutenant Phillip Cooley, Lissa Parker.

Call to Order: The meeting, held in the City Hall Annex Training Room, was called to order at 5:35 pm.

Minutes:

Minutes from April 24, 2008 were approved without corrections

Opening Remarks:

None

Agenda Items:

Budget Presentation

D.C. Farmer: Preparing budget presentation for City Council, stressing the following:

- 43 year low in crime, 6th year decrease
- Accurate, timely, intelligence-led policing.
- Communication with other agencies: Crimeview to be regional.
- Response times: In 2007, response times improving drastically, despite continued growth of Fresno. 9-1-1 calls answered in an average time of 3 seconds, down from 12 seconds
- Gang suppression and tactical teams: 1300 felony arrests of gang members
- Gang Prevention and Intervention; PAL, and MGPI. Increase in participation and overall quality of life, school performance, self-esteem, etc. 125 gang members removed from gang lifestyle; 305 "wanna-be's" prevented from joining gangs; 112 drop-outs returned to school.
- Traffic Safety: 79 fewer traffic fatalities (fatal collisions down 48%); 31% reduction in injury collisions; 26% reduction in collisions overall.
- Graffiti
- Video Policing
- Capital Projects
 - New central station
 - Need to place the stations in the center of the district for numerous reasons
 - Southeast station will house specialty vehicles
 - Regional training facility Central and Hayes, state of the art. POST. Other agencies will be coming to Fresno to train.

Budget presentation is open to the public. Scheduled for June 9th, time to be announced.

Secure Idle

D.C. Farmer: Leaving patrol cars idling used to be necessary for the computer systems, etc. More efficient technology is making it possible for officers to not have to leave cars running while parked for short periods, saving fuel, etc.

Cell Phone Law

D.C. Farmer: Law takes effect July 1st. No grace period. A violation will show up on your driving record, but will not count as a point. We are holding a press conference and several announcements have been made to ensure public awareness.

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Officer Training on Handling the Mentally Ill

Rangel: Reference to Fresno Bee article on MH training in Visalia. 40 hours of training is simply not enough. Reference to book "A student's guide to police practices." Contains common sense stuff like how to behave when you come into contact with the police.

Dinuba has civilian oversight. We are desperately in need of an IPA.

Our officers clearly lack training. If you go in ill prepared you are going to have a problem. It's about preparation to deal with the mentally ill. They need more training.

D.C. Farmer: We are continuing to work with FCMH to make sure we are utilizing best practices and training our officers in the best way we can. We are making every effort to provide our officers as much info as possible about dealing with the mentally ill. Many Officers have received well in excess of 40 hours of training. Academy training, field training, class training, scenario training, briefings, advanced officer training.

Communication is also key. The training we provide is above and beyond most. There are many times when officers are able to use dialog to avoid violent resolution.

Gentile: Some of the concern should be about the returning veterans as well.

Announcements:

None

Closing Remarks:

None

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Next Meeting:

June 26th, 2008